## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

BENEDINI et al

Group Art Unit: Not yet ass

International Application No.: PCT/EP00/07222

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: January 18, 2002

Attorney Dkt. No.: 108907-000

For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF NAPROXENE NITROXYALKYLESTERS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

January 18, 2002

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 3-5 as follows. A copy of the marked up original claims is attached to this response showing the changes as set forth in amended 37 CFR 1.121.

3. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the inorganic bases are hydroxides, oxides, carbonates and bicarbonates, silicates, aluminosilicates of the alkaline and alkaline-earth metals, or hydroxides, oxides, carbonates and bicarbonates of metals belonging to the group IIB, preferably zinc, or to groups IIIa or IVa, preferably tin.

